ESTABLISHED 1854.

THE JOURNAL COMPANY, Publisher. NINTH AND GRAND AVE. Subscription Rates: By carriers, per

week, 10 cents: per nwonth, 45 cents. mail, daily and Sunday, one month, cents; three months, \$1.00; six months, \$2.00; one year \$4.00. Daily only, six months, \$1.50; one year, \$5.00. Sunday only. six months, 30 cents; one year, \$1.00. Tri-Weekly Journal (Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday), six months, 75 cents; one year, \$1.50

Advertising: For advertising rates, write to the home office or to the J. E. Van Doren Special Agency, offices 305-305 Boyce building, Chicago, and 31-52 Tribune building New York, agent for foreign advertis-

Entered at the postoffice at Kansas City, agency: Missouri for transmission through the mails, as second class matter.

DURING THE WEEK ENDING DE-CEMBER 17. THE JOURNAL CIRCL-LATED 277,350 COPIES; DAILY AVER-

AGE, 39,621. Wenther Forecast for Sunday.

WASHINGTON, Der 17 .- For Oklahoma and Indian Territory: Bain, eleating Sunday afternoon or night; easterly winds, becoming variable For Missour: Showers, proceeded by fair in north-west and northern partients; variable winds. For Kansas: Threatening weather, followed by

showers in southern portion; variable winds. For Nebraska: Fair; variable winds. For Colorado: Threatening weather; variable winds.

AS TO RAILROAD LEGISLATION.

It is aunounced by managers of the proposed special session of the legislature in Kansas that such a railroad bill will be passed as to reduce transportation charges 25 per cent. Itemay be interesting to inquire a little into the probable results of such a measure, and in doing so we have selected for reference the official reports of the Santa Fe road, on the assumption that it is a fair representative of Kansas railroad interests, and that its percentages of loss or profit will apply pretty accurately to the whole.

The Santa Fe has not yet compiled its reports for the year ending June 30, 1898, and we are compelled to deal with the figures of 1897, but as that was one of the most prosperous years in the whole history of the road, it cannot be charged that a period is used which makes a bad railroad showing. First, we present a little table showing the earnings and expenses of this road on all business beginning and end ing in Kansas, on the proportion passing through Kansas from one state to another, and on the proportion originating in Kaneas and passing out, or originating elsewhere and passing in-in short, all the business that by any stretch could be considered in connection with the Kansas traffic: Gross earnings for 1837. Operating expenses and taxes.

\$1 687 181 77 Net earnings . Now in reducing transportation charges 25 per cent, one-fourth must be taken away from the gross receipts, and this calculation having been made it will be discovered that the gross receipts have been teduced to \$6.215.184.87, or \$338.546.51 less than taxes and operating expenses. If the proposed Kansas bill had been in force in 1897, on this division of Santa Fe traffic the owners of the road, instead of receiving a fair return for their capital invested, would have been compelled to go down into their pockets for something more than one-third of a million in order to keep their road open and the wheels moving.

But the infustice of the proposed reduction does not appear in all its enormity until it is considered in connection with the business actually transacted in Kansas, the only proportion of the traffic over which the legislature can have any rightful control. Here is a table setting forth the condition of this traffic in the year given: enger earnings tail, express and miscellaneous

Gross earnings in Kansus. \$4,923,119 79 Operating expenses \$3 540 657 X 3 482,467 46

By applying the proposed 25 per cent reduction to this Kansas business it will be discovered that the gross earnings have been reduced to \$3.549,652.33 or \$523.312.59 less than the taxes and operating expenses. Therefore, if the Populist bill had been in effect in 1897, and the Santa Fe had had no earning capacity outside of Kansas, the owners of the road would have been out of pocket more than one-half million dollars, These figures are not strictly acurate, because the proposed reduction could scarcely apply to mail and express, but even allowing the full earning capacity for these will not materially alter the amount of losses.

In dealing with what a legislature or other ruling power had a right to take into consideration in determining the reasonableness of a railroad rate the supreme court of the United States, in the Nebraska case, decided as follows:

"A state enactment, or regulations made under the authority of a state enactment. establishing rates for the transportation of persons or property by rallroad that will not admit of the earrier earning such compensation as, under all the circumstances, is just to it and to the public, would deprive such carrier of its property without due process of law, and deny to it the equal protection of the laws, and would, therefore, be repugnant to the fourteenth amendment of the constitution of the United States. If we do not misapprehend counsel, their argument leads to the con- bit faulty in regard to the undesirableness clusion that the state of Nebraska could legally require local freight business to be conducted even at an actual loss, if the company carned on its interstate business enough to give it just compensation in respect of its entire line and all its business. interstate and domestic. We can not concur in this view. In our judgment, it must be held that the reasonableness or unr asonableness of rates prescribed by a state for the transportation of persons and property wholly within its limits must be deter-mined without reference to the interstate business done by the carrier, or to the offits derived from it. The state can not justify unreasonably low rates for domestle transportation, considered alone, upon the ground that the carrier is earning large profits on its interstate business. which, so far as rates are concerned, the state has no control."

This brings us face to face with the Kansas situation, and gives us insight to the foolish thing which the Populist legislature is about to do. It is denied the power to fix rates so low that the local traffic will wrong side of public questions than any afford no profit. It has abundance of evidence before it to show that the present rates do not permit the earning of a fair rate of interest for rallroad capital invested, and yet it proposes to cut these rates 25 per cent, and make it impossible for the roads to earn even operating expenses We must assume that the engineers of this measure have ordinary intelligence, and that they must be well aware that their proposed bill can not stand the test of federal law. They are pushing their bill solely

ng full well that it is illegal and uncontutional, and for this sort of demagogy the state of Kansas must roundly pay. There is no need to plend for the rail-

reads. They are in no danger, for they have rights under the constitution which can be but one result of the proposed Pop- with vociterous applause. ulist railroad legislation, and that is to plunge the people and the companies into expensive strife and litigation.

THE CLOSING OF A GREAT YEAR.

From a business standpoint, not to speak f many other important and interesting onsiderations, the year coming to a close is one of the most important in the history

December is adding a surprising close to the most surprising year of American history. November surpassed all other months of the century in volume of business and production, and, thus far, December is doing even better in payments through clearing houses, in railroad earnings, in foreign trade and in the activity and strength of securities."

It is gratifying to know that the volume of business which set in soon after the beginning of the McKinley administration has been accumulative, and that at the close of the year 1898 the percentage of increase is larger than ever before. The year has witnessed remarkable prosperity in all lines of trade. It has witnessed extraordinary exports, and for the first time in American history the exports of manufacturers have exceeded the imports of the same class. There have been big balances in favor of the United States at the end of each month, and the gold that was paid out during the long period of depression has been stendily flowing back into the coffers of the American people.

All this too, in spite of the prosecution of a war and the presentation of unusual interests calculated to divert attention from business. The general activity and continuous progress of the business world during the year just closing is one of the strongest possible indications of the commercial security of the United States. The spirit of enterprise has been strengthened in every part of the Union, notably in the South, which is unmistakably in favor of expansion and what it will bring to the Southern states in particular.

LABOR AND SOCIALISM.

It is gratifying to note that so vigorous and influential a labor leader as Samuel Gompers is unqualifiedly opposed to socialism, and that the great organization over which he presides has seconded him by an overwhelming vote in convention. The socialistic idea which is making some headway among the industrial masses of this country is antagonistic to the principles on which the American government is founded. This country, of all the countries in the world, is a land of individual opportunities. It is the country where the citizen no matter how humble his origin or condition. is privileged to work to the top. He may choose his calling in life, and if he have energy, perseverance and native ability he can attain the highest success,

Mr. Gompers rightly says that socialism is the enemy of labor organization. And not only of labor organization, but of the highest and best forms of labor itself. Take from the workman the stimulus of Individual achievement and prosperity and you destroy his ambition for excellence in workmanship. The American workingmen as a class are not in favor of socialism, and never will be. The attempt of theorists and agitators to foist it upon them will inevitably fail. The Kansas Populists went into the campaign this year on a partially socialistic platform, and were overwhelmingly defeated. The people of this country have an abiding faith in the strength and wholesomeness of Americanism, and Americanism and socialism, like oil and water, will never mix.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Mr. Vest is gradually working up to the point where he will flash the constitution on George Dewey.

It is estimated that \$45,000,000 will be spen for holiday toys this year, not counting Colonel Bryan's new hobby.

Evidences are abundant that the holiday shoppers are this year giving the store clerks a touch of high life.

Perhaps Senor Rios might accept as a souvenir the pen with which Carl Schurz writes his anti-American editorials.

In the meantime let us hope that Senato Jumper, of Kansas, has been taking some thing for that deceptive jaggish look.

Governor Lecdy seems determined that the Kansas people shall have no occasion to regret that they failed to re-elect him.

For a patriot who is taking his last whack at country saving, the Hon, William Voluminous Allen is keeping remarkably quiet.

The holiday advertising will soon drop out, and the magazines will then be able to devote some of their space to war

Mr. Gompers has a level head on a good many subjects, and his judgment is not a of socialism.

If it is in order, we would respectfully suggest to the Kansas City police that this town is infested with footpads, burglars and sneak thieves

Perhaps the Hon, Billy Mason is waiting to see how the hotel clerks are going to line up on the question of expansion before committing himself.

The constitution may be a great instrument, but Mr. De Armond would have more regard for it if the framers had thought to load it for exars. It is believed that if properly approached

Colonel Bryan could be induced to waive his personal wishes and submit to a few newspaper Interviews. Mr. Vest has carned the distinction of having made more frothy speeches on the

other man of his time If the president doesn't stop his chatter about the country's rosy future that Boston "anti" league may have to call a meeting and give him a vote of no confidence.

The Spartan character of Hon, Arkansas Jones is shown in the fact that he attends steadily to his senatorial duties, notwithstanding that haunting menaced feel

for the sake of political buncombe, know- | President McKinley declares that all is the soulless corporation!

well with the country and that the future is bright and inviting, and those Southerners actually seem to believe him. Mr. Vest must be deeply disgusted.

Still, the work of fraternizing has not can not be trampled under foot. But for gone so far that the Confederate this is unthe people of Kansas there should be much furled at public gatherings in the North.

NOTES AND NOTIONS.

Topeka is beginning to tear its vitals of the champagne punch served at the Fort over the question of an inaugural ball. Mr. Leedy is not much of a skipper, and therefore yielded gracefully to the demands of some of his people that the "revelry by night be shut out from the legislative of the nation. The following is from last | temple of Kausas. Mr. Stanley, with the week's report of the Dun Mercantile great Methodist church behind him, and all around him, for that matter, does not smile on the institution very warmly. Finally those interested appealed to Tom Me Neal, as a disinterested citizen, to speak out the opinion of the tolling masses. After some personal reminiscences which are not without animus the oracle speaks as follows: "We do not give a continental whether there is an imaggural ball or not." The only consolation we can offer Major Shrieve is that he can come down to Kansas City and have an inaugural ball any time he likes.

The Federation of Free Churches of England, which includes all the evangelical bodies of the realm except the established church has a committee at work preparing a new catechism, which, if accepted, will be published with the approval of all the denominations represented in both England and America, with the recommendation and hope that it will be adopted in all the churches. This will be the first attempt to bring about uniformity of instruction for youth by this means since the Reformation. It naturally gives rise to the question; How many of those who read of it were themselves brought up on a catechism, or have seen a catechism? It strikes us that the extechism has been going out of use.

Professor Schwab, of Yale, has gathered statistics of the occupation of 7,500 graduates of that institution. A hundred years ago nearly 40 per cent of the graduate went into the ministry. Now only about 7 per cent become ministers. But it would be a very superficial conclusion from these figures to declare that the interest in the ministry is falling off. The fact is, rather that now a larger number of persons who are preparing for all other walks in life go to college. For instance 31 per cent of the cons of Yale now go into business. The fact is, these figures warrant no inference at all as to the min-

The Open and Institutional Church ha passed its fifth annual convention. Perhaps you all know what it is. It is a convention of churches which believe in the duty and necessity of making churches, buildings as well as organizations, useful more than one day in the week, and in carrying on all the helpful work possible. It is a body of people who are coming to look at the church as an institution in and through which to do good, rather than one from which to get good primarily. In convention they talk about the ways and means of revitalizing the Christian church, This time they spent considerable time discussing the federation of American churches. All of which is very good.

Those tender souls who have been grieved by the innovations of the revised version of the Bible, as though the much-tinkered English of the so-called authorized ve sion were itself literally inspired :- what will they say to the irreverent undertaking of Professor Stevens, of Yale, who has just published "The Epistles of Paul in Modern English"? For our own part, we regard It as a very sensible notion. What is th use of letting plous souls break their heads over the unintelligible phrases of Paul's epistle to the Galatians? To illustrate instead of "Whatsoever is not of faith is sin," Mr. Stevens reads: "One sins against his own moral nature when he does what his conscience is not clear in approving. Anybody can understand that.

Rev. Mr. Scudder, of Jersey City, who has had much free advertising as a minister who was teaching dancing in his church, explains things in a recent number of the Outlook. His church is one thing. and much like other churches. But his people have built also a "Tabernacle" in the midst of the toughest part of the city The Tabernacle is an "institutional church and, as such, one of its institutions is "The People's Palace," where the dancing classes are conducted. Mr. Scudder explains that the "Palace is a secular institution, onerated under religious auspices. Its object is to offer to the people of the neighborhood wholesome amusements under rational and moral conditions." This we take to be a sincerely religious work. We wonder why Mr. Scudder thinks it necessary to say so explicitly that the "Palace" is not on consecrated ground. If he isn't careful he may find that the ground is consecrated in spite of him.

Some people may not have noticed a brief item some weeks since to the effect that Mr. Stanley and the other newly elected state and congressional officers of Kansas were going on a little pleasure trip to Port Arthur in company with a select number of private citizens of Kansas and Missouri, among whom were the representatives of some great brewing establishments. The excursion was a pleasant affair, and those who participated doubtless were impressed with the need for a great harbor on the Gulf. But did you notice that Mr. Stanley was not one of the company? Now we all know that Mr. Stanley is very much occupied just at present, trying to satisfy the claims of the patriots who saved Kansas, but are willing to slaughter her if they do not get their ple. But do you suppose that was the reason why Mr. Stanley did not go on the excursion? Per-

Dr. Blumer, of Utica, N. Y., has been doing some missionary work against the defacement of his part of the country by display advertisements. By personal solicitation he has secured the removal of all such nuisances between his summer home and the city. He found in most cases that the signs had been put up without the consent of the owner of the property on which they stood, and met, therefore, little opposition in having them removed. Even where there was any consideration paid, it was very small. What Dr. Blumer has done others can do. In this connection it is worth noting that the New York Central railroad has steadily refused to permit the erection of signs on its right of way, although considerable sums have been offered for the privilege. Tally one for

KANSAS TOPICS.

Jim Orr is slapping away at the buzzing mayeralty bees just like a man fighting moequitoes Mr. Witchorogofske, of Emporia, has

tried the only thing likely to make him happy with it by taking a bride. the people of Kansas spere should be about the mention of Jeff Davis' name received A Sallin paper says that "what shall we

do for ice next season?" is the burning question just now. Let us trust that it was not the quality

Scott banquet which made the municipal

association resolve that prohibition was a pretty good thing. By the way, how many of the mayors and councilmen at that banquet later explained to their wives that "St. Julienne," "Ammontillade" and "Laubenheimer" on the

ing pens? monly fine testimony to the transporta-

bill of fare represented new ways of cook-

tion liberality of Balle Waggener. Miss Marvel Espener is the name of a Lawrence young woman who owns and runs a barber shop with three chairs. Thirty years ago Lawrence had a woman barber and her rough shaves haunt the city still.

At Olathe the wedding guests and preacher had gathered to solemnize the marriage of Samuel Pratt to his sweetheart. When the couple were bidden to stand up and join hands the bride balked, declaring that she had just received a message from her dead mother advising her not to marry. The groom declared that he did not believe in spirit "hunches," but the bride was not to be moved and the wedding

H. C. Ericsson, of Eskridge, belongs to one of the regiments recently sent to Porto Rico, and he writes of the voyage as follows: "Just as the trumpeter was blowing the mess call at noon the ship struck a reef of rocks which nearly turned the ship over; just then she struck one on the other side which caused her to straighten up. It was nearly two hours before the ship was got into deep water again. The vessel was examined, and it was found that she had only received two large dents in her bow, but did not take water. The ship's captain said to our commanding officer that the men were a set of fools or else the nerviest men he ever saw, for we were all laughing and joking over the incident "

J. A. Curtis, of Crawford county, is a eaman on board the battleship Oregon. In a letter to his folks from Rio Janeiro he gives some idea of the ceremonies and sports indulged in on warships when they reach a friendly harbor. As follows:

"We arrived at Rio 11th Inst., and sa luted the nation as we should by discharging twenty-one six-pound guns. They answered, and immediately we saluted the English admiral, his flagship being anchored in the bay close by, and they answered. The American minister came aboard, and upon his departure we saluted him, and the Brazilian flagship made a mistake and saluted him also, but mistakes will occur.

"The next day the visiting of officers be came monotonous; scarcely an hour went by but some gogue, pedagogue or demagogue, must be saluted, and at 12:30 p. m. the president came out in his private vacht and everybody saluted. The sound and resound came over the morbid waters of the Rio bay until it seemed as though another attle wee on

"The people of Rio are great sports, and so the revelles must be kept up. Two or three days of the week are holidays. just whatever the people see fit to keep. On the 15th inst. was their independence day, and, of course, we were in it. All of the ships in the bay (warships) turned in signal flags, hoisting a Brazilian flag to the uttermost mast. The nation was saluted every morning and evening by every vessel of water type in the hay.

"After dark Chinese lanterns decorated the ships most fastidiously, but the Calataria, Italian flagship, took the prize awarded by the committee on decorations, Our ship's company gave a show on the forecastle of the Oregon, which was well atronized by English brother officers and nen. The invitations were cordially exended to the Germans, but they excused hemselves, thinking we could not get up nything worthy of their free notice, so he rumors were quickly spread that Germany and America would soon be fight-

"On the next day the officers and Amercan minister gave a ball on the quarterleck of the Oregon. The forecastle had a chance just the day before, and now the quarterdeck must come in for her share. A sweet sounding orchestra was formed from the genial talent of the big vessel; the ship was elaborately trimmed with magnolia, cocoanut, pineapple and orange leaves and limbs, while the graceful darkles whiled the afternoon away. This affair began at 12:30 p. m. and 6:50 p. m. Oh, how sweet the orchestra appealed to the merrymakers as the minutes rapidly fled!

"The secoritas came o'er from Rio, as well as a few of the sporting bloods, and

all enjoyed themselves." The Topeka Mail and Breeze has made itself the medium of letters to Santa Claufrom boys and girls all over Kansas and the result is several columns of the most charming reading imaginable. Here is one from Ewart Rice, a 7-year-old boy in Cheyenne county, whose objections to the fa vors bestowed in the past would seem to

be very well taken: "Dear Santa Claus:-I was 7 years old ast January. I have twin sisters 5 years old, and the twin brothers you sent me two years ago. Don't send us any more babies, please. Send me a gun that will kill rabbits and wolfs, and a horn and a knife. Send the boys a ball. Send the girls a doll and a doll buggy, and I'd like a lots more things."

And here is one from George Maxwell, a 16-year-old boy of Rush county, whose regret that he has no little brother to fight with must be offset by his joy in the knowledge that his mother has made a good man out of a monstrously wicked father:

"Mr. Santa Claus. Dear Sir: I am a boy 10 years old and have no sister to kiss nor brother to play or fight with. My papa was a bad Democrat when he married ma, but she got him turned, and now he is an awful Republican. We take lots of papers and the best. Mr. McNeil is a mighty funny man."

Captain John K. Rankin, of Lawrence, is now in the government service and stationed on the Pacific coast, and here is the Not only were the men living, who had

letter written to Santa by his little daughter in Kansas:

"How are you, old Santa Claus? Have you thought about my Christmas present yet? If you have not, please send me this one, which is my papa. He has been away eighteen months. It is a long time and want to see him very much. It would not be out of the way to drop in at Klamath agency. Oregon, and bring him home to me. would it? He is a small man and would not take up much room in your sleigh and does not mind the cold, either, Did you know, old Santa, that my papa is the best papa in the state of Kansas? I don't need a doll, for the one that you brought me last Christmas is as good as new, and I can do without a great many things if I only have my dear papa."

And here is one from Thurza Bailey, a little girl of Westmoreland, which contains the most original idea that has been pro-The Globe demands that Atchison be ad. | mulgated by childhood since the days when mired for "not having a single citizen who. Santa was a pagan myth-the idea that the buys tickets to Wichita." Which is uncom- old fellow must have a son who will be wanting a wife by and by, for which place Miss Balley offers herself as a candidate

> "Dear Santa Claus: When you come to Westmoreland, Kas., please stop at the smallest white house on State street and give me a nice little watch, like my mam ma's, and a blue-eyed doll for Sister Ettie and a sled for Brother John, I will be eight years old next June, and am in the third grade of our school. My mamma teaches a school nine miles west of here and papa teaches four miles southeast. He walks forth and back every day, and he Ettie and I keep house. Mamma come home on Fridays. Now dear old Santa it you have a little boy who will be the Santa Claus when you die please tell him of me and that I'd like to be his wife, so I could go with him and help him give nice pres ents to the good boys and girls. For fear you will not know me I'll send you my pleture and you can show it to your little

> boy." Master Joseph Vernorn, of Larned, doesn't want much-just only all the things be can remember-but what do you suppose put the spninx of Egypt in his head unless it might have been Ed Little's dogs which barked for fifty centuries? Says Master Joseph:

> "Dear Santa Claus:-It is a whole year since I wrote you a letter. I don't hardly know what to write you. My sister youst to write my letters for me, but she is married now and she has to write letters for her baby, so I will have to writes my letter by myself. I would like to see you. Santa Claus, I hope some day that I will. A gold ring, a watch, the sphinx of Egypt, an air gun, a train of cars, a boomerang, a tea kettle, a book, a drum, a tin pan; a rubberneck box, a jumping jack, rooster whistle, colored pencils, a bird that sings, a bow and arrow, pearl handled knife, great big elephant, an electric car, a stocking of candy. I hope you will bring me all these things for Christmas."

> However, when it comes to wanting the earth, and the fullness thereof, Master Joseph hasn't much the start of Miss May Reed, of Topeka, who lists her demands as follows: I am a good little girl, and I want you to bring me lots of pretty presents. I want you to bring me a bicycle and pony, a brown pair of gloves, and a new silk parasol trimmed with white lace, a picture book some games and some nice, little toys that I can play in the bouse with. A little doll hat, a table cloth for my little table, and a 1133 Harrison street, I shall hang my tocking up at the foot of the bed. Now Santa, I hope you are well, and I want you to bring me all the things I asked you

If we are to believe that Fannie Cooper, of Fort Scott, wrote the letter to wnich her name is signed, we must picture her as a precise little miss who says "prunes and prisms" every morning when she first gets out of bed in order to get her mouth shaped right. Here is her epistle:

"Dear Santa Claus:-A little girl would like to express many thanks for past favors with the hope that she may be remembered this coming Christmas. Kind noble soul, many a sleepless night have I passed awaiting your joyous coming, and many a heartfelt prayer has been offered in your behalf for your precious care. Dear Santa Claus, may your image always remain to little boys and girls as sacred as it does in the heart of the one who signs this."

New Form of Tax Dodger.

From the Atlanta Constitution A new form of tax dodging has been discovered in the home of that profession-

New York city. Under the United States revenue stamp aw the fee bill is based upon valuation in the transfer of property, real and personal. For a week or two after that law went into force, the newspapers were filled with stories of large sums paid in stamp tax upon the transfers of valuable pieces of property. To hear of \$250 and \$500 worth of stamps being used upon property transferred became quite common, but it must not be supposed that these opportunities for thrift escaped the eye of the wary money maker. For the last few weeks the authorities in New York have noticed that there were a great many transfers for

property for the sum of \$1, and natural love and affection and so on. Colonel Williams, collector of New York, has discovered a number of these transfers and charges the parties thereto with frauds against the federal government, and he is about to appeal to the courts to reach the supposed criminals. The state officers declare that it is not their duty to examine the question as to whether the property is really sold for the consideration named or not, and in this it must be said that they are on the safe side. While the intention to defraud the general government is dain, yet it is difficult to see how the authorities can go behind the documentary

All of this only goes to show that to convert the tax dodger we must reach his onscience as well as his property; that as long as his conscience is crooked he can devise ways and means to steer clear of the man with the fee bill.

The Living United-Now the Dead!

on the Atlanta Constitution (Tien One of the most remarkable declarations ever made by the chief executive of any nation was that which fell from the lips of President McKinley before the Georgia legislature yesterday, when, in view of the fraternity and the harmony existing beliving, who stood face to face thirty-five years ago, he called for an extension of that same spirit and consideration for the dead-Confederates, as well as Federals.

It is needless to say that, as the president spoke with measured accent and impressive ion his words went straight to the hearts of his hearers, as proven by the tremes doug outburst of applause which greeted them, and that the glimpse of restored union and fraternity which we caught through the smoke of El Caney as ex-Confederate General Wheeler led the men in blue, had become a reality for all time

marched in serried ranks from battlefield buttlefield, brought together and made to feel as brothers and as Americans, but the silent hosts of those gone could be magined moving around in the mysterious air breathing benediction upon this achieve ment of brotherhood and restored felicity.

The idea of the president is most felle us, and most felicitous because it comes from him. A Federal soldier, who fought for the Union through the long four years of strife; whose campaigning led him up city in which he speaks, he had a right to speak for the men upon whose should rests the victory of that occasion. As a Republican, and a man of Northern birth, representing the dominant party, as it came out of the war, he is qualified to speak for the men who answered the call of Abraham Lincoln and for these Americans who saw their duty from another side than that which was presented to us. As president of the United States, one who had camped upon tented field, placed in offic by the Republican party through votes cast almost solidly for him in the Northern dates, it was the height of patriotism for im to set aside, as emergency distand very feeling of partisanship, of rivalry, personal antagonism, and to speak to Americans whether their fate be cast up-on the Great lakes, within sound of Paific shores or along the coast of the Sout Atlantict

All honor, then, must be accorded a eliter nagistrate who, so circumstanced as Mr McKinley, yet has not only been broad enough and hold enough to open out his arms to receive the living, but who would spread his kindness and benediction upon he graves of the gallant men who to for their principles, no matter under what dag they marched!

Merely "Beating the Air."

'rom the Philadelphia Record (Dem.) Those opponents of the policy of expanwho, like Senator Vest, for instance, ittack the same as illegal and unconstituional, are simply beating the air. The egal right of the United States, in their quelty as a sovereign power, to acquire territory cannot be questioned, and have exercised this right time and tim again. The right to acquire and cede teritory is an indispensable attribute of novereignty, and resides in the treaty making and supreme legislative power of this government.

The Greatest Wheeler.

from the New York Press Here is the supreme test of modern fame and popularity: Scorchers turn out for General Joe Wheeler when they meet him

on his bicycle.

The Soul's Greatness. George H. Hepworth, in New York Herald.

And the Lord God breathed into his nestrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul-Genesis, ii:7.

What a startling statement! And the longer you think of it the more it startles

Man, then, is a twofold being-dust and God! In good time the dust will go back to the place from whence it was taken, to be used again as a component part of tree or flower or animal. We need it only for a few years, and when it has served our purose we sigh farewell, for its companionship has been very pleasant, and so our knowledge of it ends.

But the "living soul," what of that? It

does not return to Him whose breath it was, but preserves its identity, is indestructible, and, as a personal being, enters another sphere of activity, there to be developed by circumstances more favor-

able than any which earth can afford The dust can accomplish its entire mission here, and why, therefore, should it continue to be a part of us? But the soul never wakes up to a perfect knowledge of itself until it is roused from the sleep of death. Then only does it thrill with the consciousness of real life. Its bondage to the flesh is broken, it becomes free, it loses the sense of limitation, it recognizes its dignity as a part of the plan of God. it feels within itself the throbbing of this little gold watch that will run and keep kinship to Him, and it trembles with time. Please don't forget now. I live at boundless joy at the thought that it is immortal.

How curi eral thousand years ago and who represented a semi-barbarous people should have uttered such words as these! Where did he get the truth he spoke? Yes, they are the truth as we in this modern age understand it. All our systems of religion are based on it, and when we meditate on the grandeur of the soul and its endless destiny the words of the text repeat themselves in our ears. They are crudely and rudely symbolical and yet they have rung through the ages like a chime of bells. We do not accept the secr's story of man's creation as literally true, but we are amazed that he should have so emphasized the difference between body and soul at a time when the

world was in its swaddling clothes. We retain his idea, but clothe it in more philosophic language. We declare that God's life pervades the universe; that life comes from Him and is a part of Him. Man's soul is therefore the God in man. Since no part of God can die, the soul must needs live forever. The infinite and the finite belong to each other, just as the water in a pool came from the water in the ocean. The mother's love is simply God's love fitted to the limitations of ome, and all the attributes of man are God's attributes in miniature, the one bestill, the echo of the other. You cannot get away from God, and when you try to do so your conscience pricks you and bit ter remorse is your portion. Remorse is merely a homesickness of the soul, soul remembering that it has wandered

and longing to get back. What a marvelous idea of human life follows from these facts! You have perhaps wasted it under the honest impression that it matters little what becomes of it, or that, at any rate, it is your own and you have a righ to do with it what suits your fancy. But no; your life is in a large sense the property of God, and you are His appointed steward to guard, care for and develop it. It will never return to God as two flames, the little and the large, combine, the little being lost in the large, for God has given you your life, just as a king would give a some treasure, never asking for it again. And that life of yours, that mysterious wonderful life, a puzzle which no science

has yet truly guessed what use have you made of it, what are you doing with it now, and what shape will it take in the days to come? Has it been depressed by aden doubts and fears, has it been frittered away in follies or in pleasures which have lasted no longer than a brilliant scap bubble which bursts when its colors re most radiant? Or have you molded it into some heroic form, using your cirimstances as the sculptor uses his tools o bring the statue out of the rough block

God has done one thing which seems to me so awfully grand that the brain reels while contemplating it. He has given you sole charge of your own character. You are master, and events are your slaves He puts sweet and persuading influences about you. He sends the whole unseen world to direct you with invisible hands, but when you face your experience yo alone must decide whether it ou to the stars or sink you into the mire Such responsibility! How God must have prized the soul He created when He made

it the arbiter of its own fate!

And if He has given it such grandeur and crowned it with immortality, can we lo aught else than lead princely lives, as Jesus did, conscious that we are so large that we should disdain all smallness and throbbing with that diving ambition which will be satisfied with nothing less than the highest good and the noblest attainment? That is the religion of Christ, and it consists of an appreciation of what you are and of your destiny, and a determination with help from above, to produce such a character out of the discords and smile of time that He will say at last, "Well done, good and faithful servant

PRAYER.

There is an awful quiet in the air. And the sad earth, with moist, imploring eye, Looks wide and wakeful at the pendering sky. Like Patience slow subsiding to Despair. but see, the blue smoke as a voiceless prayer, Sole witness of a secret sacrifice, Unfolds its tardy wrenths, and multiplies

oft chameleon breathings in the rare apacitius ether-en it failes away. And maught is been beneath the pendent blue, the undistinguishable waste of day. So have I dreamed! Oh, may the dream be true-That praying souls are purged from mostal him. And grow as pure as He to whom they pray.

-- Hartley Coleridge HOMESICK.

Here, within Winter's white domain, I am as one who has no place, No fair familiar face.

Mr old-time comrades bees and birds, The little leaves that lo Alts. I hear not one: With their on

Not one !- and to my aching heart, through this spectral realm I ream is the inexerable smart— The wander any for home

O Summer, hearken, I implore, You with the eyes Lenign and mild; Take back your homesick child."

THE UNDERCURRENT.

Duy after day I smile and chatter, And work for the world with head and hands; Oh, will it dever couse its clatter? Hush, bush, my heart!-God understands. LEILA R FEABODY.

OF CURRENT INTEREST.

A remarkable feature of the Hanscom court-martial now sitting at the League Island navy yard is the striking resem-blance, as some close observer has noticed, of some of the members to other navy officers, especially to several of the heroes of the late war with Spain. Commander Richard P. Leary, who was summoned from Boston, where he was inspecting torpedo boat construction, looks very much like Admiral Dewey, while Captain John J. Read, who is in command of the receiving ship Richmond, at League island, can easily be taken for Admiral Schley, Commodore Howison, commandant of the Boston navy yard, who is president of the court, bears a very close resemblance to Commodore Cusey, the commandant of the League Island yard, and Captain James H. Sands, the governor of the Philadelphia Naval

ome, is described as a "ringer" for Ad-

miral Sampson, except that his beard is

much whiter. The modernizing of Switzerland still proseeds apace. The latest phase of the work is to be seen at Lucerne, where the Kapellbrucke, the splendid old wooden over the Reuss, is threatened with destruction. This quaint structure with its gables, frescoes and lanterns was built in 1230. the era of Lucerne's independence and the birth of the Swiss confederation. The 150 pictures which decorate the roof are much more modern, dating, indeed, only from the last century. The ediles of the city, who seem to have lost their fathers' love of art and affection for history, declare that the old weather-beaten timbers are out of harmony with the new hotels and their facades of freestone and plate glass that have sprung up of late along the shores of the

lake. The fire commissioner there recently gave out a census of the tall buildings of Greater New York. He has obtained some startling figures as to the height of the modern skyscrapers. He finds that there are five buildings more than 300 feet high, namely; Ivins' Syndicate building, Park row, 369 feet; St. Paul building, Broadway and Ann street, 368; American Surety Broadway and Pine street, 306; American Tract Society building, Nassau and Spruce streets, 206, and Commercial Cable building, Broad street, 304. His chief recommenda tion is an underground pipe system, to be utilized in conjunction with powerful fire

boats. It is sometimes unwise to ask for an apology. Two leading teetotal lights of Kirkaldy, Scotland, were returning not long ago from a highly successful local editor observed in his report that "fortunately both gentlemen were sober at the time." They did not appreciate this tribute, and a strong letter was written the editor. The next issue contained this abject apology: "Messrs. — and — demand an apology for our having stated that at the time of their accident they were both soher. We have pleasure in withdraw

ing our observation." A very curious relic of old Paris is about o be removed-the house in the Rue de Venise, built in 1402 by the celebrated alhemist, paimist and philanthropist, Nicholas Flamel. It is one of the few specimens of fifteenth century domestic architecture still to be seen in the French can tal, says the London Chronicle. Until the revolution its upper floors were let to poor ld men and women, who, in accordance with Flamel's will, had only to pray for the repose of his soul, and to say an Ave every day at the hour he died to secure

lodgings rent free. The directors of the Fifth Avenue bank, in New York, following their usual custom, have declared a regular quarterly dividend at the rate of 100 per cent per annum. Two other metropolitan banks, however, pay larger dividends than the Fifth Avenue. These are the Chemical, which pays on a asis 150 per cent bi-monthly, and the First National, quarterly, at the 100 per cent per annum rate. The stock of the Fifth Avetue sells at \$2,500 a share; the First National, at \$2,500 a share, and the Chemical at \$4,000, and sometimes more, a share.

The candy butchers at the cheap variety theaters in New York are a curious lot seldom seen by uptown theatergoers, Originally trafficking in prize packages, they have found it necessary to increase their inducements, and the 5 cent package now includes as a prize a package of cough rops, a copy of a sporting paper, one of the illustrated supplements of a Saturday evening paper, a song book and a stick of hewing gum. The papers are, of course back numbers; but even at that, it is a liberal 5 cents' worth.

There is a physician in New York who has his patients take their prescriptions to a druggist who, by special agreement, binds imself to renew no prescription. The unfortunate patients, as soon as their bottle of medicine runs dry, must pay another visit to the doctor and get a new prescripion unless they are cured by the first bot tle. The physician does not even give commutation rates to his patients, but smiles and makes out bills.

Some months ago Lieutenant Julien and, of the French navy, better known as Pierri Loti, was put on the retired list, and he has been trying to be put back on the active list ever since. The old sea dogs of the navy, however, say that he ought to stay retired and write novels, as he can do that sort of work very much better can be can perform the duties of a naval

officer. The Marquis of Anglesey, who died not long ago, at one time ordered sent from London to one of his country homes a large quantity of hand grenades for use in ase of fire. The servants hung them all ver the house, but had a dozen left over. What shall I do with them, my lord?" asked the butler. The titled blackguard condered for a moment and then said: You may put them in my coffin."

General John W. Foster, who served as Li Hung Chang's adviser during the Japanese-Chinese peace negotiations, has re-ceived a letter from the Oriental statesman, in which he says that "all recent changes in China are for the better."

Frances Hodgson Burnett has received 20,000 in royalties from the dramatization of "Little Lord Fauntleroy."